

girls championship, securing their first-ever State basketball title.

On March 27, the team defeated the defending champion, Chartiers Valley, 51-27, led by junior Sydni Scott's game-high 16 points.

The victory made history on several fronts. Not only was this the school's first State basketball championship, but it also marked just the third time a mother-daughter duo has won a PIAA state title, with Coach Chrissie Doogan at the helm and her daughter Maggie playing forward. O'Hara's win also gave the Philadelphia Catholic League the distinction of becoming the first league to win three straight girls' titles in the same year.

The young women of Cardinal O'Hara are an inspiration to our Delaware Valley community. Congratulations to the entire Lady Lions basketball team. Keep making HERstory.

□ 2150

OPPOSE PACKING THE SUPREME COURT

(Mr. GIMENEZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GIMENEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to the proposal by some Members to pack the Supreme Court.

At first glance, you would think this came from Hugo Chavez or Nicolas Maduro, pictured here. It is sad to see that it actually comes from some people in this institution.

As a Cuban exile who fled the Communist Castro regime, I know the consequences of these dictatorial moves to centralize power in the hands of a few ideologues.

Packing the courts is a tactic used by brutal dictatorships, like Venezuela, to consolidate the Socialists' power, which resulted in tens of thousands of court rulings in its favor and basically destroyed the country.

Packing the courts sets the precedent for the judicial branch being expanded at every transition of power, with each President wanting to put their four or more additional Justices, which eventually could result in hundreds of Justices of the Supreme Court.

This proposal to fundamentally rebalance our judicial system towards one political ideology should not only be opposed, but must be condemned to the fullest extent.

I will fight to my last breath the attempts by anyone to fundamentally change government in such a militant manner.

WOMEN STILL DON'T EARN EQUAL PAY FOR EQUAL WORK

(Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Madam Speaker, it has been 58 years since the

enactment of the Equal Pay Act, yet still women don't earn equal pay for equal work.

In my district, women only earn 78 cents for every dollar a man earns. The wage gap is even wider for Latina, Black, and Native-American women.

This isn't simply a women's issue. This is a family issue. When women earn too little, their families are short-changed, too.

This is a civil rights issue. When employers discriminate against a woman, they undermine justice for everyone.

The Paycheck Fairness Act will give women the tools we need to challenge sex-based pay discrimination. It will give employers the guidance they need to pay their employees what they deserve.

I ask my colleagues in the Senate to step up. Let this be the year that we work together to pass this landmark bill and send it to the President for his signature.

HONORING JACK MARSHALL JONES, JR.

(Mr. CARTER of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember and honor Jack Marshall Jones, Jr., of Savannah, Georgia, who, sadly, passed away on April 3 at the age of 84.

Jack was born in Savannah and went on to graduate from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill with a degree in economics.

As an active member in the Savannah community, Jack served on several boards, including Armstrong State University Foundation, Savannah Country Day School, and the Savannah Rotary Club.

Jack was also a founder and director of First Bank of Savannah and the Savannah Bancorp.

In his free time, Jack enjoyed exploring the Wilmington River and the treasure of our beautiful coast.

However, it was his loving relationship with his wife of 60 years, his family—including his granddaughter and a former member of my staff, Caroline—and friends that fulfilled him.

I am thankful for the immense impact he had on the Savannah community, and I know his legacy will remain.

My thoughts and prayers are with his family, friends, and all those who knew him during this most difficult time.

CELEBRATING YOM HA'ATZMAUT

(Mr. DEUTCH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DEUTCH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition and celebration of Yom Ha'atzmaut, Israel's Independence Day.

On this day 73 years ago, the Israeli Declaration of Independence was

signed, marking a long-awaited historic day, the formation of the world's only Jewish state in its modern form.

As a proud American Jew and a proud supporter of Israel, it is a privilege to recognize Israel and its contributions to the international community.

Israeli innovation in areas like water, technology, and agriculture have yielded dramatic advancements with global impact.

I am proud the bills passed in this Chamber, including legislation to affirm Congress' overwhelming support for Israel and strengthen the U.S.-Israel relationship.

We are witnessing a new era as Arab States normalize their relations with Israel, which will create incredible opportunities for cooperation in the Middle East. I look forward to supporting those growing ties.

I am proud to stand here today in strong support of Israel and the U.S.-Israel relationship on this 73rd Yom Ha'atzmaut.

IN HONOR OF ISRAEL

(Ms. MANNING asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. MANNING. Madam Speaker, 73 years ago, in the aftermath of the Holocaust, a courageous group of Jewish leaders declared the creation of the State of Israel. Eleven minutes later, President Truman announced the U.S. recognition of the new State.

Truman was persuaded that in an area like the Middle East, where there had never been any tradition of democratic government, it was important for the long range security of our country that a nation committed to a democratic system be established there.

Even today, Israel remains the only democracy in the Middle East with fair elections, a free press, free speech, a court system that is open to all, and protects the rights of women and minorities.

Israel has welcomed millions of immigrants fleeing persecution and war from across the globe. Its thriving economy has a vibrant, high-tech sector and medical breakthroughs that have benefited the world. Israel has literally made the desert bloom with innovative irrigation, desalinization, and agricultural techniques.

Israel is our most reliable ally in the Middle East. Our countries share military exercises and intelligence and have developed cutting-edge missile defense systems and border security technology.

Israel's brave founders created an extraordinary nation that has provided immeasurable value to our country and the world. May our countries be blessed with many more years of friendship.

PACKING THE SUPREME COURT IS AN ABSURD PROPOSAL

(Mr. LAMALFA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, the absurd proposal brought forth now to pack the U.S. Supreme Court out of thin air with four new Justices is the latest in a breathtaking effort to seize and seal power for Democrats. They know their policies frequently don't win at the ballot box or in fair elections, so they seek to stack a Court with a new set of Justices that they hope will hand them victories outside of the hallowed legislative process.

Justice Breyer, the late Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, and even Joe Biden himself—who is quoted as saying packing the Court is a “bonehead idea”—all disagree, at least at one time, that packing the Court to simply grab a majority is wrong-headed and un-American.

I am glad to enter into a constitutional amendment with Representative DUSTY JOHNSON to “Keep the 9” and save our Supreme Court, to keep it above politics.

This is one of the most blatant, naked power grabs we have seen, ever. If this effort is somehow successful and allowed to stand, then you will not recognize the America we know, once knew, as pure power politics will indeed have won over our process that the Founders put in place.

CELEBRATING ISRAEL

(Mr. SCHNEIDER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to join with my colleagues in recognition and celebration of the independence of the State of Israel 73 years ago today.

Seventy-three years ago today, the United States became the first country to recognize Israel, and I am proud to join those here in the United States and around the world in wishing the people of Israel a happy Yom Ha'atzmaut.

Today, we reaffirm the critical, unbreakable bond between our two nations. The United States and Israel have a friendship rooted in our shared values that goes back decades. Israel is our strongest ally in the Middle East and one of our most important allies in the world. Today, the cultural and societal bonds between our two countries remains as strong as ever.

Today is a day of celebration for Israel: Celebrating her perseverance, economic growth, cultural achievements, and democratic values that have developed in the decades since their independence.

Israel's existence as a Jewish, democratic, secure state is vital to both the Jewish community and the peace of the entire Middle East.

I vow to continue to do my work supporting and strengthening the U.S.-Israel relationship so that we can keep working together for our shared goals.

Israel has become a country of innovation and growth, one where there are prospects for peace in the region. I look forward to continuing that relationship.

□ 2200

RECOGNIZING INDIANA'S OUTSTANDING YOUNG ATHLETES

(Mr. MRVAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MRVAN. Madam Speaker, as an avid basketball player, it gives me great pleasure to recognize the exceptional achievements of the high school basketball players in Northwest Indiana this past year, who safely showed up and put in the effort during the challenges of this health pandemic.

I also want to recognize the following programs who represented our region during the semi-State and beyond this past season.

First, congratulations to the Lady Bulldogs of Crown Point High School women's basketball team, who won the Indiana High School Athletic Association's 4A State Championship.

Congratulations also to the Gary West Side High School men's basketball team who won their regional championship game to advance to Indiana's Class 4A Semi-State.

And congratulations to the Kouts High School men's basketball team for winning their Semi-State Championship for the first time in the school's history.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing these outstanding young athletes for their skill, tremendous hard work, and dedication to the game. They make all of Northwest Indiana and their schools, families, and communities so very proud.

ISRAEL'S RESILIENCY

(Mr. TORRES of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TORRES of New York. Madam Speaker, Israel embodies the resilience, the ingenuity, the can-do comeback spirit of humanity at its best.

One need not be Israeli to be inspired by the survival and success of Israel, which has persisted in the face of improbable odds. One need not be Jewish to be inspired by a Jewish state whose rebirth and resilience and resourcefulness is one of the greatest success stories the world has ever seen.

A tiny nation the size of New Jersey has emerged, in the span of a few decades, as a global power and a global innovator, as a start-up nation and as a water superpower.

The story of Israel's renaissance takes on special meaning in our present moment, at a time when our own country is reeling from the cataclysm of COVID-19. Israel reminds us that it is possible to overcome. It is

possible to emerge stronger than ever. And it is possible, in the words of President Joe Biden, to “build back better.”

Madam Speaker, Israel has endured for more than seven decades. And by the grace of God, may it endure for many more.

CONGRATULATING UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON COUGARS BASKETBALL TEAM

(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to show exuberance and excitement and congratulations to the young men at the University of Houston who entered into the Final Four for the first time in 37 years.

Congratulations to Coach Sampson and these very fine young men, who had not only the ability and skill on the basketball court, but character and determination and hard work. We are so proud of them in the city of Houston, and certainly of the University of Houston. We congratulate them for standing up, marching onto that court, and dunking that ball.

Congratulations to the University of Houston basketball team entering the Final Four at the NCAA. We are excited about their success, and we congratulate them over and over and over again. Congratulations to the Cougars, University of Houston basketball team.

WHERE ARE THE JOBS

(Mr. WESTERMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WESTERMAN. Madam Speaker, it has been 85 days since President Biden halted the Keystone pipeline. We have yet to see those green jobs he promised. Promises won't pay the bills.

We stand with the hardworking Americans who were forced out of work and ask this administration, Where are the jobs? Knee-jerk policies here in Washington have life-altering implications for people like Mr. Neal Crabtree, a welder and union foreman from my district who lost his job on the Keystone pipeline.

Of course, if you bring up this topic with Climate Czar John Kerry, he will tell you all these workers can switch to working in solar energy.

Madam Speaker, from looking at salary data, a welding wand in the hand of a highly-skilled pipeline welder is worth more than two screwdrivers in the hands of solar panel installers.

These job-killing energy policies are yet another example of how out of touch the Biden administration is with the men and women who keep our country going.

Talk is cheap, action is harder. If President Biden is going to continue promising these elusive green jobs, then he needs a long-term plan in